

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 3, 7-8, and 12 will have been amended. Further, claims 13-15 will have been newly submitted and claims 2, 4, and 10 will have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims in the present application, in due course.

In the Official Action, the Examiner has indicated that the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on March 26, 2004 was not considered because it was not in the file. Although Applicant submits that an Information Disclosure Statement should be in the file, Applicant is nevertheless submitting herewith a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 26, 2004, as well as a copy of the PTO-1449 Form and a copy of the date-stamped receipt evidencing the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement on March 26, 2004 (and prior to issuance of an Official Action in the present application). Additionally, Applicant is also submitting herewith a copy of the foreign language document and a copy of the English-language abstract of the foreign language document. Accordingly, in the next communication, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner return a signed copy of the PTO-1449, filed on March 26, 2004, to confirm consideration of the documents cited therein.

Further, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by BROWN et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,152,512), hereinafter referred to as BROWN. Applicant respectfully traverses the above-noted rejection and submits that it is inappropriate with respect to the claims pending in the present application.

In this regard, as previously argued, Applicant maintains that the rejection is inappropriate at least since the handle extension (92) of BROWN is not configured to distinguish between proper and improper attachments based upon the mounting side/orientation of the glove box assembly. That is, improper attachment of the handle extension (92) in BROWN would not be based on or indicative of a specific orientation/mounting side of the glove box assembly. Further, the glove box of BROWN does not have a housing selectively mountable "in one of left and right sides of an instrument panel".

However, the glove box assembly, as recited in claim 1, includes an identifying member is configured to ensure that the knob is coupled to an appropriate one of the left side mounted housing and the right side mounted housing. Further, the glove box assembly, as recited in claim 8, comprises, inter alia, an identifying member that identifies a knob configured to be attached to the lid based on the selected mounting side of the glove box assembly. In other words, the glove box assembly, as recited in the claims, is distinguishable from BROWN by being able to identify appropriate coupling or attachment with respect to a selected mounting side. Thus, for at least each of the above-mentioned reasons, in addition to the arguments submitted on October 22, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Although Applicant does not agree with the rejection set forth in the outstanding Office Action, Applicant has nevertheless amended the claims to substantially incorporate the subject matter of claims 2, 4, and 10 respectively into claims 1, 3, and 8. In particular, Applicant submits that another aspect of the present invention relates to

providing a glove box assembly comprising, inter alia, an identifying member/structure that includes a guide protrusion provided on a side portion of the knob and a guide groove on a side portion of the lid such that the guide protrusion is configured to engage with the guide groove, as recited in the claims.

However, Applicant submits that BROWN does not disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features. Rather, as illustrated in Figure 3, the elongated handle extension (92), which was interpreted by the Examiner as being the identifying member, does not comprise a guide protrusion on a side portion of the knob and a guide groove provided on a side portion of the lid, as recited. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection together with passage of the present application to issue.

Furthermore, Applicant submits new claims 13-15 for the Examiner's consideration. New claims 13-15 are believed to be allowable for at least the combination of features recited therein, as well as for depending on claim 1, 3, or 8, which Applicant have shown to be allowable.

Further, Applicant notes the status of the present application as being after final rejection and with respect to such status believes that there is a clear basis for entry of the present amendment consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.116. It is also submitted that the present amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search or consideration or the question of new matter. The amendments to the independent claims are based upon the subject matter of now canceled dependent claims 2, 4, and 10. Moreover, the present amendment clearly places the present application in condition for allowance.

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Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the present amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and indication of the allowability of all claims pending herein.

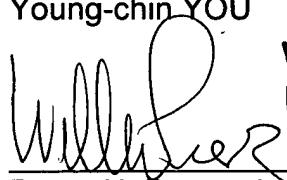
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

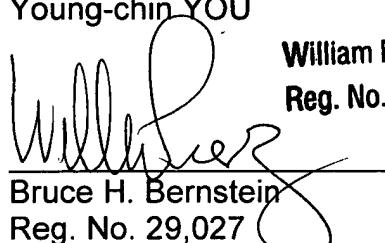
Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an indication to that effect. Applicants have amended the claims to enhance clarity and argued their allowability. Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Official Action and allowance of the present application and all the recited claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

March 8, 2005  
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